

CHARACTER  
THE CHARACTER  
THE OF A TRUE *of a truly*  
VERTVOVS AND PIOUS *virtuous*  
VV O M A N.

AS IT HATH BEEN ACTED BY  
MISTRESS  
MARGARET DVNGAN

(VVIFE TO DOCTOR  
ARNOLD BOATE.)

in the constant course of her whole  
life, which she finished at Paris

17. Aprilis 1651.



PARIS.

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THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HAS THE HONOR TO ANNOUNCE  
THAT IT HAS THE PLEASURE  
TO INVITE THE ATTENTION  
OF THE PUBLIC TO THE  
EXHIBITION OF THE  
WORKS OF THE  
ARTISTS OF THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK  
AT THE  
MUSEUM OF THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK  
ON THE  
FIFTH OF MAY  
NEXT  
AT TWO O'CLOCK  
P.M.



45.  
6. 28.  
156.  
156.



TO THE RIGHT REVEREND

FATHER IN GOD

THOMAS SINSERF,

*Lord Bishop of Gallovvay.*



Ay it please your  
Lordship,

Having perpetually before my eyes the  
aymable and commendable  
qualities of my  
most lovelie and most be-  
loved consort, of vvhom  
it pleased God latelie to  
deprive me in the prime

of her age (to my unspeakable grief, and irreparable discomfort ) and having found some consolation in reducing in vvriting part of vvhat my memorie did suggest unto me of her, for to serve me instead of a pourtrait, upon vvwhich I might often passe my viewv, thereby in some sort to mitigate the excesse of my tormenting sadnes, much better than others in the like case use to doe vvith lesse livelie and more cor-



poreall representations:  
I thought good, vvhat I  
had so set dovvn at first  
vvith no other intention,  
than to remaine vvith  
myselfe, and to serve o-  
nelic for mine ovvn use  
and consolation, to pu-  
blish the same unto the  
vvorld; partlie for to  
acquit vvhat is due to her  
vertues, deserving a farre  
statelier monument; and  
principallie for the ad-  
vantage and edification  
of others; hoping that  
her example may serve

as a powverfull motif,  
vvhcreby many vvilbe  
stirred up to the practise  
of true vertue and pietie,  
in the same manner as  
these lines ( free from all  
amplifications and rhe-  
toricall ornaments, and  
consisting of a bare and  
plaine narration vvithout  
all artifice ) vvill hold  
forth to have been done  
by her. And as all those,  
vvho have knowvn her,  
can beare me vvitnesse,  
that I have said nothing  
of her, but the naked

truth ; so in particular  
your Lordship, vvho ha-  
ving lodged vvith us un-  
der the same roof, and  
come to the same board  
vvith us, for the space of  
vvell neere three yeares,  
have seen in her conver-  
sation all those qualities  
verified, vvhich here I re-  
late of her: vvhich hath  
incouraged me, to dedi-  
cate these lines unto your  
Lordship, thereby to put  
them past all contradic-  
tion vvith such, as have  
not at all been acquainted



vwith her, and vvho upon  
my bare record might  
cōceiue, that my pen had  
not been so much guided  
by unbiassed truth, as by  
an over-favourable and  
pre-occupied affection.

*And forasmuch as some  
passages of this treatise vvill  
receiue some light by the  
knowledge of the accident  
that hath taken her away,  
and of the manner that it  
made an end of her; it vvill  
be good to give a compendious  
relation of the same, before  
I come to the maine matter.*

Having been married to me  
at Dublin on christmas day  
in the yeare of our Lord 1642.  
and brought me three children  
( the youngest where - of ,  
beeing a girle , borne here in  
Paris on the 13. of Septem-  
ber 1646. is onelie alive ) she  
miscarried last yeare on the  
27. of April , wvithout anie  
evident cause. and having  
conceived again about the 12.  
or 14. of August , she wvent  
on happilie till the first of  
March , wvithout anie other  
incommoditie , than that she  
was excessive big , more than

with anie former child she  
had been, verie un-able to  
walke or stirre, and subject  
to frequent faintings; for  
which last accident having  
been let blood in the arme on  
the 19. of November, she  
was some weeks the better  
for it. For the rest, she had  
her health wonderfull well,  
and a farre better appetite,  
than she had had with anie  
of her former children; the  
which did so fill her veines,  
as it caused the aforesaid ex-  
cessive bignes. and nature  
being overburdened with



blood, discharged it selfe on  
the first of March in the eve-  
ning, of a suddain, and  
without anie the least pre-  
ceding commotion of mind or  
bodie, of part of it, in that  
impetuous manner, as in the  
space of lesse than halfe an  
houre she lost more than two  
pound. and hauing continued  
to loose some more blood for  
the space of an houre longer,  
and begun to bleed afresh  
the next morning, she had  
nine ounces of blood draw-  
ne from her out of her  
right arme; which presentlie

Stayed her bleeding. But  
she had another fit the 13. of  
March, though nothing so  
copious as the first; and a  
third on the 22. of the same  
month, much more moderate  
yet. and such was also the  
fourth, which came on the  
first of April. The tenth  
of April she had a fifth shed,  
much what of the same  
quantitie as the second: and  
the 12. of April at night a  
sixth, a verie greate one,  
the blood for a greate while  
running from her iust like a  
spiggot. The 15. of the same  
month,

month, beeing saturday, she  
had a seaventh fit, farre mo-  
re furious than any of the  
former, so as in lesse than  
halfe an houres time she lost  
10. or 12. pound of blood;  
continuing also to bleed some  
vvhat for tvvo or three houres  
after; by the end vvhere-off  
the bleeding vvvas stanchd,  
she hauing been let blood in  
the arme, and manie good re-  
medies given her in vvardlie,  
and applied out vvardlie, by  
me and the midvvife, vvith  
the joint advice of Doctor  
Sarrasin, an ancient and fa-



maius practioner. Yet she had  
another little shed the same  
day about tenne of the clock  
at night, a second about the  
same houre the next morning,  
beeing sunday; and a third  
at one of the clock in the  
afternoon. and from that  
time the blood having stayed  
on her till the next day,  
monday the 17. of April, at  
seaven a clock at night, then  
again, notwithstanding a  
greate manie of most excellent  
remedies, both outvard and  
inward, that had been ad-  
ministr'd to her ever since sa-

turday at noon, (during  
vvhich time also she had not  
stirred out of her bed, and  
been plied vvith such exqui-  
site nourishments, as are  
fitting and usuall in the like  
cases) the blood burst down  
in as greate an abundance as  
ever: vvhereby her veines, so  
much emptied alreadie, ha-  
uing been utterlie exhausted,  
it so abated her strength, as  
casting her from one fainting  
fit into another, vvithout  
anie thorough throvvs, for to  
bring-on labour, but onelie  
some vveak beginnings of it.

*Miss Mary*  
(to the contrary of what  
the midwife with us had  
hoped and expected) she ne-  
ver came to herself again,  
but gave up her ghoste some  
three houres after the begin-  
ning of this last fit, and about  
tenne of the clock at night:  
having kept her senses till  
within a quarter of an houre  
before she died, and her speech  
till within lesse than halfe  
an houre. And this last halfe  
houre she was wonderfull  
calme and quiet, where-as  
for the space of somewhat  
more than halfe an houre

before she had grievouslie  
tossed; her heart being loath  
to yeeld to the approaches of  
death, because not at all  
abated by anie sickness. For  
after every one of those sheds,  
that she had had from the  
beginning, even after that  
late and grievous one on sa-  
turday, and after the subse-  
quent ones on sunday; she  
did still recover herselfe again  
within a few houres, and  
would be very heartie, ea-  
ting her meate with as good  
an appetite and digestion, as  
if she had ailed nothing.



And having got a greate  
deale of good sleep the last  
night of her life, that be-  
tuxxt sunday and monday;  
she was so cheerfull and  
light some, not onelie in the  
morning, but all the day  
after, as if she had had no  
harne at all. and where-as  
she had companie most part  
of the afternoon, she talked  
and was merry with them  
in the same manner, as any  
well bodie might have done.  
Insomuch as Doctour Sarra-  
fin, who went not from  
her till a little before seven.

of the clock at night (having  
been upwards of an houre  
with her) went away full  
of most comfortable hopes,  
and assured me at parting,  
that there was nothing at  
all to be feared for her. For  
although she had not felt the  
child stirre at all since saturday  
at noon, we made the  
lesse matter of that, because  
that it having lyen still after  
severall of the former fits in  
the same manner for the space  
of 24. houres, and longer, it  
was still come to it selfe  
again: so as there was cause

to hope for as much at this  
time. As for what she said  
and did in those last hours of  
her life, and how she con-  
cluded it in relation to God  
and her soule, that will find  
a place in some part of the  
following Discourse: the  
which let us begin now.



I.

**S**He feared God most  
strulie, and vvith a  
most upright heart, in-  
deavouring in all her  
actions, thoroughout the  
vvhole course of her life,  
to observe his holie com-  
mandements, and to ab-  
staine from all euill: in-  
somuch as she vvould not  
have cōmitted anie thing  
vvillinglie, that she vvas  
convinced to be contrary  
to his holy vvill, expressed



2      *Character of*  
in sacred Vvrit , for any  
earthlie advantage vvhath-  
so-ever; the preserving of  
a good conscience in all  
things , beeing the chief  
of her cares.      And as  
she vvas vvonderfull reli-  
gious, so she vvas verie de-  
vout , never missing of  
performing her morning  
and evening prayers , of  
reading every day some  
portion of the holie Scri-  
pture , of dulle obser-  
ving the Lords day , of  
assisting at Gods publick  
vvorship on the same ,

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(vvithout ever absenting  
herselfe from it for anie  
small hinderances) and  
of receiving frequentlie  
the holie communion;  
before vvich she ever  
prepared herselfe the eve-  
ning before verie re-  
verentlie vvith sitting  
prayers and meditations,  
and vvith the like closed  
up that sacred action, at  
her comming home from  
the same. and in that  
exercise, as in other parts  
of her devotion, she hel-  
ped herselfe much vvith

4      *Character of*  
the formes set down in  
the Practice of Pietie,  
vvhere-off she vvas a great  
lover. and she did li-  
kevvis greatlie affect all  
other books of devotion,  
of meditations, and of  
morall instructions, pro-  
vided that they vvere  
vvritten feelinglie, so-  
lidlie, and gravelie. for  
those that vvere either  
dull, flat, and livelesse,  
or stuffed vvith vvords  
rather than vvith matter,  
and puffed up vvith em-  
ptie rhetorick, she did  
not

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not at all care for, as on  
all other subjects, so  
principallie on this.

Having been bred a  
Protestant by her father,  
and by her mother (a  
meere saint of a wo-  
man) she vvas verie fir-  
me in that profession,  
and verie averse from all  
the errours of the con-  
trary: for the confuting  
vvhenceoff, and for the  
asserting of the truth, she  
vould uphold a dispute  
so handfomelic, and pro-  
duce such solid and perti-

C



nent arguments, as vvas  
not a little to be admi-  
red in her sexe and age.  
and having been severall  
times tampered vvithall,  
since her comming to  
Paris, by Priests and  
Friars, especially of the  
Irish nation ( vvho, be-  
cause of her belonging  
to that countrie by her  
father, pretended to be  
particularlie obliged, to  
have a care of converting  
her to their beleefe) she  
ever sent them avvay ho-  
pelesse of effecting anie

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thing upon her; so closing their mouths, upon what point so ever they attacked her, as she left them destitute of all solid replies, and this she did with so much calmness, as she never entered into the least heate in any of those disputes.

She was altogether addicted to the constitution of the church of England, both for the government, and for the formes practised in the same; being verie much in love with

8      *Character of*  
the common prayer, and  
greatlie admiring many  
particulars of it, as of the  
rest of the Liturgie, espe-  
ciallie the manner of ad-  
ministring the Lords sup-  
per, and of burying the  
dead. yet she vvas verie  
farre from being of their  
opinion, vvho look on  
the French Protestants,  
as beeing of a different  
Religion; not thinking  
a fevv differences, in cir-  
cumstantiall matters of  
government and ceremo-  
nies, a sufficient ground

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of making so great a  
distance betwixt two  
churches so unanimous  
in all essentials. and this  
made her verie vvilling  
to goe to Charenton, and  
to find much comfort  
and satisfaction, not on-  
lie in assisting at their  
sermons and prayers, but  
in receiving the Lords  
supper vwith them; as  
she hath done verie often.

She could in no vvise  
indure anie expressions,  
that had anie thing of  
prophanenes in them,



10      *Character of*  
though othervvise a grea-  
re lover of vvittie and  
merrie sayings : but to  
the contrary she singu-  
larlie relished all discour-  
ses of goodnes and pie-  
tie, and vvould often fall  
on them herselfe, vvhen  
that good occasions vve-  
re offered, and vvhere  
she thought the compa-  
nie vvould be delighted  
or edified by it : beeing  
verie farre from affecta-  
tion in this, as in all  
other matters, and from  
desiring to appeare reli-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Beate.* H

gious, rather than to bee  
so.

She greatlie hated  
all singulatities in Reli-  
gion, either in matters  
of opinion, or of practi-  
ce; beeing a greate lover  
of conformitie.

She  
had perfectie those two  
qualities of David, of  
loving the godlie, and  
of hating the vvicked:  
and as she greatlie abhor-  
red all lewd and profane  
persons, so she did no  
sooner perceive true  
goodnes and pietie in  
anie bodie, but she pre-

sentlie conceived a great friendship and affection towards them.

And the feare of God bore so absolute a sway in her soule, as it was the chief ground of all her other vertues and good qualities. for such of them, as she was naturallie inclined unto, either by the frame of her mind, or the temperature of her bodie, or both, (vvhich were many, and of the chiefest) in them she was greatlie confir-

med and strengthened  
by this consideration,  
that they vvere pleasing  
to God Almighty, and  
commanded by him;  
oftentimes making that  
reflection. and as for the  
others, vwhere-unto her  
nature vvas not so much  
disposed of it selfe, or  
from vvhich it had some  
aversion, (as humilitie,  
long-suffering, content  
of the splendour and ad-  
vantages of this vworld)  
she did in them so strive  
vvith herselfe, out of a



14      *Character of*  
meere desire of making  
herselfe acceptable to  
God, and of performing  
his blessed commande-  
ments; as she did not  
onely novv and then,  
by vway of a temporarie  
violence upon herselfe,  
performe some actions of  
those vertues, contrary to  
her ovvne inclination,  
onely because she knew  
them to be required by  
God; but by her conti-  
nuall studie and practise  
laboured to make them  
habituall to her, and in

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a greate measure attained  
there-unto.

**I I.**

She vvas most exactlie  
iust, so as she vvould not  
have done anie bodie  
the least vvrong in the  
vvorld, though it had  
been to benefit herselfe  
never so much by it; and  
vvould rather have expo-  
sed herselfe to anie in-  
commoditie, than be  
vvanting in giuing every  
bodie their due to the

16 Character of  
full. which also made  
her verie punctuall in  
paying all kind of debts,  
as soon as ever they vvere  
ovving, and called for:  
never using nor endu-  
ring to make anie bodie  
call tvice for vwhat vvas  
to be payed to them; and  
so farre from taking a  
pleasure in keeping in  
her hands monies that  
vvere due, as she vvas  
rather displeased vwith  
them, vwho vvere slacke  
in comming to demand  
them. And as she vvas so  
severe

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Severe an observer of this  
vertue tovwards others,  
so she vvas verie remisse  
in exacting it from others  
to herselfe; beeing of a  
wvonderfull yeelding na-  
ture, and rather chusing  
at anie time to goe from  
her right, than by stan-  
ding too preciselie upon  
it, dravv-on anie oblo-  
quie or strife upon her-  
selfe. It vvas from the  
dictates of Iustice, that  
she greatlie condemned  
all insurrections vvhats-  
ever, as beeing persvva-

D

*H T K L M. N O P Q  
R S T U V W X Y Z*

*Mrs Marg. Boate*



18 *Character of*

ded, that absolute obedience is due to the legitimate supream Powvers, and all forcible resistance against them forbidden, though they acquit themselves never so ill of the trust committed to them by God and men, and commit never so manie and so greate errors against equitie and reason, and against the fundamentall lawes of their countries. In vvhich persvasion, mainlie grounded on conscien-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.*

ce, she did also greatlie  
strengthen herselfe by a  
prudentiall considera-  
tion ( frequentlie insisted  
upon by her in her dis-  
courses ) of the great  
evils, that manie times  
come to passe by reason  
of the like stirres; vvhel-  
reby the people, gulled  
by the cunning of a few  
factious and ambitious  
leaders ( zealouslie pre-  
tending the publick in-  
terest, but reallie making  
that altogether subser-  
vient to the accom-

plishing of their own  
unvarrantable desires  
and desseins ) doe com-  
monlie, instead of men-  
ding their condition,  
fight themselves into a  
much more grievous fla-  
verie, than that vvhich  
before they suffered or  
apprehended. It vvas  
from Iustice also, that  
she vvas vvonderfull res-  
pective to all decayed  
persons, beeing verie ca-  
refull to deferre as much  
unto them, and to use  
them vvith all the same

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civilities, in their present  
lovv condition, that were  
given or due unto  
them in the dayes of their  
best fortune: and this  
she observed not onelie  
towards others of that  
kind, vvith vvhom she  
had not anie particular  
commerce, but even unto  
them, vvho in some sort  
depended on her, and  
vvho often tasted of the  
fruits of her bountie:  
she thinking it verie hard  
and unreasonable, that  
vvhat vvvas trulie due to



22      *Character of*  
a bodie for some inhe-  
rent qualitie, should be  
denied them because of  
their misfortune; grie-  
vous enough to be  
borne, vvithout anie  
such aggravation.

I I I.

As she detested all in-  
justice to all kind of per-  
sons, so especiallie that  
vvhich vvvas exercised  
against infirme ones,  
vvanting meanes and  
friends for to helpe and

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right themselves ; of  
vvhose condition she vvas  
vvonderfull sensible, and  
vvonderfull prone to  
comfort and releeve  
them to the best of her  
povver ; as likevvise all  
other persons distressed  
vvith anie calamities ,  
unto vvhom she vvas ex-  
ceedinglie tenderhearted  
and compassionate. This  
made her verie charitable  
and openhanded to all  
such , as farre as her ovvn  
abilities vvould any  
vvayes give her leave: the

24 *Character of*

inlarging vvhhere-off she desired for nothing else so much, as that thereby she might be inabled to doe the more good unto the needie; vvhhereas else, setting that consideration apart, she had brought herselfe to an absolute contentednes vvith that mediocrity of fortune, vvwhich the Lord vvvas pleased to afford us. And as her compassionate nature made her to have a verie deep fellowv-feeling of other

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folkes vvant and pover-  
tie , and to be verie free  
in imparting her ovvne  
unto them , vvhere-  
vvithall to releve their  
necessities ; so she had a  
verie livelie sence of all  
their other sufferings, and  
consequentlie did excee-  
dinglie detest all kind of  
crueltie. For her hearte  
yvas so vvonderfull ten-  
der , as her compassion  
extended itselfe not one-  
lie unto all christians, and  
unto all mankind , euen  
unto such vvho by their



26      *Character of*  
ovvn misdoings had  
brought upon themfel-  
ves the evill they suffered  
(except onelie those,  
vwho beeing guiltie of  
some verie hainous cri-  
mes, vvere unto her the  
objects of meere horrour,  
she obdurating her heart  
against them out of meere  
strength of iudgement)  
but it reached also to the  
verie dumb and unrea-  
sonable creatures: unto  
vvhom she could not  
onelie not find in her  
heart to doe anie the

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least harme , or indure  
others to doe it ; but if  
casuallie anie hurt vvas  
befalne them , it vvould  
verie much trouble her,  
and she vvould not omit  
anie indeavours for to  
helpe them out of their  
paines. and I have seve-  
rall times observed vvith  
vvonderment , howv her  
mind vvould be disquie-  
ted , if but a bird, or anie  
other domestick creatu-  
re , had anie harme come  
to them , and howv ten-  
derlic diligent she vvould

*Character of*  
be in seeking to ease and  
to relieue them.

## IV.

As her charitie vvas  
verie greate in the afore-  
said particulars, so it vvas  
no lesse in making the  
best of other folkes  
actions. and instead of  
beeing the first in detor-  
ting them, or putting  
an evill construction  
upon them; she vvould  
ever take their part, vvho  
vvere so dealt vvithall:  
beeing

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beeing so farre from taking anie delight in backbiting, and in detracting from others ( a vice so common novv adayes amongst all kind of persons, as in most companies, especiallie of vwomen, it is the principall subject of peoples discourses ) as she vvould ever resist them that did so: and that not onelie in the behalfe of persons, to vvhom she had anie relation, or obligation, but even to meere stran-

E



gers, yea and to persons,  
vvho had dealt unkindlie  
vvith her, or anie vvayes  
offended her; and to such  
also many times, vvho  
by their ovvne deport-  
ments had given the  
vvorld iust cause of sus-  
pecting the vvorst of  
them. It is true, that all  
such deportments vv ere  
condemned by her vvith  
much severitie; her cha-  
ritie being no vvayes  
blind, nor at all over-  
clouding her iudgement,  
and her inbred hatred to

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vice and all vicious actiōs.  
But she could not give  
her assent to those con-  
sequences, vvhich usur-  
allie are dravvne from  
them, except the matter  
vvere vvonderfull evi-  
dent. neither did a com-  
mon report, or generall  
rumour, svvay her be-  
leeve much in this par-  
ticular: she persvvading  
herselfe, and that not  
vvithout good ground,  
that many have suffered  
injustlie in their reputa-  
tion, vvithout being

reallie guiltie of those crimes or follies, vvhether with common fame hath branded them. And as this her charitie vvas common to all sorts of persons, so she did in a peculiar manner apply it to them of the supreme degrees : in vvhom nevertheless, as in all others, she did verie much condemne not onelie all such carriage, as had anie thing of indiscretion or of loosnes in it, and thereby gave some pro-

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 33

bable grounds of suspecting and speaking the worst of them; but even those actions, which being in themselves innocent, and of an indifferent nature, were knowne to themselves to be looked-on with scandall, and to the continuance where-off no necessitie at all obliged them: which to have been the case, some yeares since, of some persons of greatest eminencie, in this and other



34 *Character of*  
neighbouring countries,  
is obvious to every mans  
knowvledge, vvho is not  
a meere stranger to the  
passages of the times.

V.

Her charitie vvas like-  
vvise singular in for-  
giving all manner of  
vvrongs and offences,  
though never so grosse,  
or so malicious; and that  
not onelic upon indea-  
vours of reconciliation,  
but before anie satisfac-

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 35

ction given. And so farre  
she vvas from harbou-  
ring anie spleene, or anie  
thoughts of revenge,  
tovvards them that had  
done her anie iniurie; as  
she did not onelie par-  
don them from all her  
soule; and heartilie  
prayed God to doe the  
same; but vvas verie  
vvilling and readie, to  
doe them anie good offi-  
ces, not onelie in that  
nature, of vvwhich vvee  
have spoken in the fore-  
going article, but on

all other occasions, that presented themselves unto her. And her charitie vvas so compleate in this particular, and accompanied vvith so much generositie, as nothing could have rejoyced her more, than to have it in her povver, to doe some greate courtesie unto them, vvho had deserved the quite contrary of her; and she vvould be sure to doe it, if the opportunity offered it selfe.

VI.

She vvas vvonderfull  
liberall of her nature,  
vvhich qualitie as it vvell  
helped-on her charitie,  
in beeing communicati-  
ve of releefe to the poo-  
re, so it made her come-  
off verie handsomelie,  
according to her ovvne  
condition, vvith all other  
matters of expence; lo-  
ving much rather not to  
doe at all such things, as  
might convenientlie be



omitted, than not to doe  
them compleatlie. yet  
vvas she verie farre from  
beeing a prodigall : and  
as her ovvne inclination  
did altogether exempt her  
from niggardlynes, and  
from all things that  
might in anie vvise fa-  
vour that vvay, fo her  
judgement gave a fvveet  
mixture of frugalitie to  
her liberalitie, making  
her exactlie vvarie of  
spending anie thing on  
vanitie, or pleasures: as  
on the other side she

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 39

would alwayes much rather have chosen to incommodate herselfe, than not to fulfill the utmost, of what decencie, yea and generositie too, did require. And as in the matter of apparell, furniture, and attendaunce, she could have been content to goe to the most expensive magnificence, that anie wayes might sute with her qualitie; so grace and wisdom made her over-rule what ever there was too much

of this in her naturall inclination, and acquiesce  
vvith a full contentment  
of mind in a comelie  
mediocritie; yea and to  
rest satisfied vvith lesse  
too, vvhen that either  
the publick calamities,  
or some of our ovvn pri-  
vate emergencies, did so  
require it. And in this,  
as in other particulars,  
her mind vvas of that  
svveet and happie tem-  
per, as she ever kept her  
desires vvithin those li-  
mits, that reason and  
goodnes

goodnes did prescribe  
unto her ; and vvhen she  
had attained to vvhat  
vvith their approbation  
she had propounded unto  
herselfe, she rested there,  
vvith an absolute conten-  
tednes ; no vvayes like  
unto most persons, vvho  
ever <sup>vv</sup>ilating their lon-  
g <sup>g</sup> to vvhat is remote,  
little or no taste in  
vvhat they doe injoy for  
the present, though for-  
merlie the utmost of their  
vvishes, aspiring still after  
nevv enlargements.



## VII.

She loved all kind of summerfruit exceedinglie, as most young folkes, especiallie of that sexe, use to doe: and she could never frame herselfe to an absolute and constant forbearance of it, although her he<sup>rs</sup> did seeme so to require it, and that the plentyfull use of the same did from time to time subject her to severall little acci-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 43

dents and infirmities.  
But for all other things,  
never man or vvoman  
lesse loved their bellies,  
than she did; she taking-  
up most contentedlie at  
anie time vvith most or-  
dinarie food, so it vvere  
but good and vvholesome;  
and neither longing for  
more exquisite dishes,  
vvhen she had them not;  
nor taking anie singular  
delight in them, vvhen  
that at anie time for my  
fake, or for the reception  
of some friend, she had

44      *Character of*  
provided anie ; or that  
abroad, either at a friends  
house, or in the countrie  
upon a iournie of plea-  
sure, she met vvith anie.  
and she vvould let the  
vvhole yeare passe, vvith-  
hout so much as once  
cooking anie thing for  
herselfe, or hauing anie  
particular dish prepared  
for her. And yet she vvas  
not so indifferent, nor  
her mouth so out of  
tast, but that she did  
perfectlie vvell relish the  
finer and delicater meates

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 45

above the more common ones, and in her ovvne inclinations like severall kinds of food before many others. but to buy that little pleasure, vvhich she took in them, at the expence of anie great cost or trouble, that she could never find in her heart to doe. As for vvine, or anie strong drinks vvhatso ever, she never knevv vvhat it vvas to love them: and vvhen she took anie (as she did vvonderfull seldome, and



*Character of*  
in verie small quantities)  
it vvas meerlie in the na-  
ture of a medecin. And  
as to confitures, and all  
kind of svveet-meates,  
she cared not at all for  
them, nor could indure  
anie more than to taste  
of them, and scarce that  
neither, even vvhen they  
cost her nothing.

### VIII.

Her chastitie vvas alto-  
gether extraordinarie;  
and as vvith a singular

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 47

care she ever kept her reputation most absolute unspotted, never having committed anie action, that might have afforded anie the least ground or colour of obloquie to the most malicious slaundersers: so she never knew, vvhat it vvas to have anie the least inclination or temptation of sinning that vvay. And indeed, besides the prevalencie of grace and goodnes in her, the verie temper of her

bodie made her so absolute a stranger to all sinful lusts, as she never knew what it was to take any the least pleasure in our verie conjugall embraces, or in all that time, that wee were married together (being upwards of eight yeares) so much as once to yeeld unto the performance of the same, without some reluctancie, nor otherwise than in making some effort upon herselfe for the paying of a

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 49

bounden dutie. And  
this her naturall coldnes  
as it made her verie apt  
to judge the best of other  
vvomen, vvwhose publick  
misbehaviour did not o-  
penlie speake them guil-  
tie, and to misbeleewe all  
or most part of vvhat  
vvvas said of their contra-  
ry disposition ( as not  
able to conceive that ea-  
sily in others, so much  
the contrary vvwhere-off  
she found in herselfe )  
so it gave her cause  
oftentimes to say, vvhen



50      *Character of*  
in our private discourses  
vvee vvould freeilie speak  
our minds one to ano-  
ther, that chastitie vvas  
no vertue at all in her,  
and that she did not de-  
serve anie commenda-  
tions for possessing it; no  
more than a man, vvho  
naturallie careth not for  
vvine, doth merit anie  
prayes for beeing no  
drunkard.      And as she  
vvas chaste in this high  
degree, so she vvas no  
lesse modest and shame-  
fast; vvhich qualitie, as

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 51

well as the dictates of  
grace, made her that she  
could not indure anie  
vvanton, and lascivious  
expressions, not onelie  
not foule and broad ones,  
but even such as but  
darklie or glauncinglie  
tended that vway: at the  
vvhich, if it vvere her  
fortune to be in compa-  
nie vvhether anie such  
thing vvas spoken, she  
vould blush as much,  
and be as much displea-  
sed, as could be expected  
of a little maiden of the

best nature and education. And indeed at the very first aspect one might readily read this qualitie in her face, her ordinary countenance holding forth a most sweet and a most perfect modestie.

## IX.

But the aforesaid coldnes of her temper did no wayes hinder her of being most fervent in her affectiō towards me;  
nor

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 53

nor of bearing me so sincere and so intire a love, as I beleewe to be equalled but by fevv vvives : and sure I am, it can be exceeded by none. This made her to desire to have verie much of my cōpanie, never beeing better pleased, than vvhen she had me neere her; to be vvonderfull sollicitous in procuring me all manner of contentment, and preventing all causes of displeasure; to comply vvith my inclinations, and

G



54      *Character of*  
applaud my resolutions,  
except she saw or appre-  
hended some great cause  
to the contrary ( vvhich  
then verie svveetlie and  
prudentlie she vvould lay  
open to me ) and indea-  
vour to the utmost of  
her povver to further  
and effect them ; and to  
be so vvonderfull tender  
of me, that if anie the  
least thing ailed me, and  
if but my finger ailed,  
she vvas all out of order,  
and could not quiet her-  
selfe , till she knevv it

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 55

was better vvith me. And  
not onelie at other times  
it vvas so vvith her, but  
even vvhen she vvas no-  
thing vvell herselfe, and  
vvhen she vvas troubled  
vvith anie paine or acci-  
dent vvhat-ever; the fee-  
ling vvhere-off could not  
in the least vvise hindor  
that her tendernes over  
me: vvwhich made me ve-  
rie vvarie at all times  
hovv I did complaine be-  
fore her of anie slight  
matter; for feare of  
disquieting her more

56      *Character of*  
than the matter vvas  
vvorth. And in that  
sicknes, vvherevvith it  
pleased God to visit me  
in the beginning of the  
yeare 1646. (the onelie  
that I had, since vvee  
vvere married together)  
and vvwhich, by reason  
of a relapse, kept me  
betvvixt tvvo and three  
vveeks in my bed, she  
vvas so assiduous about  
me, tooke so much pai-  
nes vvith me, (although  
she vvas then some  
months gone vvith child,

*Mrs Marg Boate.* 57

and needed not to have  
done anie thing herselfe,  
vvee having more ser-  
vants than one about us)  
and did so lay my case  
to heart, as none but a  
most excellent vvife  
vvould have done the  
same. And vvithall she  
used so much discretion  
and circumspection, that  
as oft as her grief, out of  
the apprehension of my  
danger, came to that  
height, that she could  
no longer keep it in,  
but that she must needs

G 3



vent it in teares and sobs  
(vvhich befell her verie  
often) she vvould be sure  
to retire to a corner,  
vvhere I should neither  
see nor heare her, for  
feare of aggravating my  
indisposition by her grie-  
ving.

X.

And as to me, so to  
her children, her affection  
vvvas vvonderfull greate  
and tender, vvwhich made  
her take her principall  
delight in them, vvwhilest

6  
16:13:4  
16:13:4  
16:13:4  
50:6:0  
50:6:0

*Mrs Marg Boate.* 59

she injoyed them , and  
heavilie to mourne after  
them , vwhen the Lord  
took them from us ; as  
he did the second, beeing  
a boy , on the 15. of May  
1649. beeing then seaven  
months old : and the el-  
dest, vvhich vvas a girle,  
on the second of Octo-  
ber 1647. she then beeing  
come to the age of three  
yeares compleatlie. and  
the losse of this child did  
not onelie afflict her ex-  
treamlie for the present,  
las that of the boy did

G 4

60      *Character of*

too ) but for a greater  
while, and many months  
after : during all which  
time she shed abundance  
of teares for her. Indeed  
the girle was a most lo-  
velie one, beeing of most  
exquisite features, and of  
a most pure complexion:  
and therebesides ( which  
was much more to be  
valued, and accordinglie  
valued by the mother )  
there appeared in her, as  
much as could appeare  
in that tender age , not  
onely a vvonderfull

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 61  
good vvitt, but all the  
signes of a svveet dispo-  
sition of mind, and of a  
good and vertuous natu-  
re; vvhereby she had got  
the love of all that knevv  
her: so as it vvas no  
vvonder, if the Mothers  
heart vvas extreamlie set  
upon her. And the Lord  
having given a good sha-  
re of the same advanta-  
ges, both of bodie and  
of mind, to our last  
girle too; the mothers  
affection, ever guided as  
much by iudgement as



62 *Character of*

by instinct, vvas not one-  
lie as excessive to her, as  
it had been to the other,  
but she took yet greater  
joy and contentment in  
her, than she had done  
in the former: Because  
that the indovvments of  
the mind, the chief ob-  
ject of the Mothers affe-  
ction, shevv'd forth  
themselves more mani-  
festlie and fullie in her,  
than they had done in  
our eldest girle, foras-  
much as she vvas come  
to some greater ripenes

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 63

of age, than the other  
had lived unto; beeing  
foure yeares and a halfe  
old, vwhen the Mother  
dyed. And my Love fin-  
ding every day more and  
more, that besides the  
sweetnes of her nature,  
free from all vicious  
and perverse inclinations  
(some or other vwhere-off  
doe appeare in most chil-  
dren) a greate flexibilitie  
tovwards all good instru-  
ctions, and an extraordi-  
nary avvfulness of all cor-  
rections, so as a vvord

and a threate vvould doe  
more vvith her, than  
blowes vvith others; she  
vvvas also verie capable,  
and vvithall not onelie  
vvilling, but greatlie de-  
sirous of learning, and  
consequentlie most sus-  
ceptible of all good edu-  
cation: she took so great  
a felicitie in her, that so  
she had but the child  
neere her, she never  
found the misse of anie  
other companie; vvwhich  
othervvise, her nature  
beeing verie sociable,  
she

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 65

she loved vvonderfull  
vell. And as before, so  
much more during the  
time that she altogether  
kept her chamber (as she  
did for the space of sea-  
ven vveeks, ever since  
that first accident on the  
first of March) she spent  
the greatest part of her  
time vvith her; partlie  
in teaching her to pray,  
and making her repeate  
often the Lords prayer,  
and severall other good  
prayers, as likevvise the  
Creed, and the Com-

H



66      *Character of*  
mandements ; partlie in  
catechising her about the  
principall points of chri-  
stian Religion , making  
her every day repeate  
vwhat she had learned be-  
fore, vvith some newv  
additions still from time  
time ; partlie in teaching  
her the beginnings of  
reading ; vvich she did  
vvith so much succes, as  
in a fevv vweeks the child  
had perfectlie learned all  
her letters, and the spel-  
ling of all single syllables,  
vvith good progresse

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 67

towards the spelling of  
the more compounded  
ones, and of some vvhole  
vvords ; and lastlie in  
answering the childs que-  
stions ( most of vvhich  
vvwere vvonderfull prettie  
and vvittie ) and in ta-  
king all occasions, both  
by them, and othervvise  
too , of begetting and  
confirming in her the  
knowvledge and love of  
vertue, pietie , and civi-  
litie. And finding all  
the paines , vvhich she  
took vvith the child,

68      *Character of*  
wvonderfull effectually,  
that did so inflame her  
affection tovwards her  
more and more, and  
adde so much to that  
greate pleasure and hap-  
pynes, vvhich she shaped  
unto herselfe in having  
her neere her, as she  
vvould needs dresse the  
child every morning her-  
selfe, and spend an houre  
or tvvo about it, instead  
of letting one of her  
maids doe it, as they used  
to doe, vvhen the child  
vvvas younger yet: and

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 69

she vvould never have  
lost her out of her sight,  
if she vvould have looked  
onelie to her ovvn con-  
tentment. But her judge-  
ment overruling her in-  
clination in this, as in  
other particulars, she  
vvould every day for a  
greate vvhile deprive her-  
selfe of her, not onelie  
vvhen she had companie,  
but even at other times  
too; for feare of making  
the child mopish, and  
to give her time to re-  
create herselfe vvith play.

H 3



70      *Character of*  
the moderate use vvhere-  
off she knevv to be ab-  
solutelie necessary for  
children. But although  
her love and her indul-  
gence tovwards her chil-  
dren vvas thus excessive,  
yet it vvas no vvayes a  
fond one, but tempered  
vvith so much severitie,  
as she vvould never vvink  
at anie of their faults,  
nor let them goe uncor-  
rected, vvhen ever they  
had done some thing  
amisse; as no children,  
though of never so good

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 71

a nature , are alvvayes  
exempt from commit-  
ting some childish fault,  
or other.

## XI.

Her love and affection,  
vvhich vvas thus fervent  
to her husband and chil-  
dren , vvas nothing re-  
misse to her other rela-  
tions , especiallie to her  
parents and tvvo bro-  
thers , but as intire and  
as greate , as could be  
expected of a person of

so much grace and goodness. This made her lay verie much to heart the death of her eldest brother, VVilliam Dungan, vvho hauing had the command, for the space of a yeare and a halfe, of a companie of tvvohundred fire-locks in the kings service, in the late vvarres of England, and shevvved much gallantrie and courage on all occasions, vvvas one of the principall actours in the taking of

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 73

Leicester, a fewv dayes  
before the battle of  
Nazeby; vvhere having  
led on the souldiours the  
third time to the assault,  
after that they had been  
tvvice beaten-off, he  
vvvas at his verie entring  
into the tovvvn shot tho-  
rough the bodie vvith a  
musket-bullet, of vvwhich  
he died vvithin a fewv  
houres after; beeing ve-  
rie much lamented by all  
them that knevv him,  
especiallie by his Gene-  
rall, Prince Rupert, vvho.



74      *Character of*  
in a particular manner  
affected him for his va-  
lour, diligence, and so-  
brietic. This losse, of a  
brother in the flower of  
his youth ( for he vvas  
not above 23. yeares old,  
vvhen he dyed ) vvhom  
she had ever loved most  
tenderlie, and vvhom she  
esteemed highlie for his  
brave qualities ; having  
been redoubled vvith  
the losse of her mother,  
one of the best mothers  
that ever vvas ; vvho  
had taken her sons death

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 75

so much to heart, as it put  
her into a consomtion,  
vwhereof she died vvithin  
a fevv months after : she  
vvas readie to be over-  
vvhelmed vvith grief, if  
the confort, vvich she  
took in me and her child,  
had not sustained her,  
till other and sublimer  
considerations, of sub-  
mitting to Gods vvill,  
and taking all patienlie  
at his hands, could take  
place in her distressed  
mind. But as it had  
afflicted her verie much,

76      *Character of*  
that the desolate estate  
of Ireland, and the exi-  
gence of my affaires, had  
necessitated me to bring  
her away from Dublin  
in the beginning of the  
yeare 1644. and thereby  
to separate her at a great  
distance, as from the rest  
of her friends and kin-  
dred (vwho all vvere excee-  
ding sorrie to part vvith  
her) so from her deare  
Parents; vvhere-unto ne-  
verthelesse she submitted  
vvillinglie, and vvithout  
repining, as knowing  
that

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Beate.* 77

that my resolution to be grounded on unanfvverable reasons : so she did excessivelie long , after the death of her brother and mother , more yet than ever before , to returne into Ireland , for to be a comfort to her good father in that sad lonelynessee, vwhere-unto that grievous double losse had reduced him.

For she loved him as much , as ever child loved a father , not onclie out of a naturall instinct,



78 *Character of*

as he vvas her father, but upon the consideration, that he had ever been a most loving and most indulgent father to her; and that as he had put her into the vworld, so he had had a singular care, together vvith the mother (a vvoman of a most sanctified mind and conversation) to bring her up in the feare of God, and in the true Religion: and vvithall had never spared anie paines or costs on her, for to

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 79

give her the verie best breeding, that the countrie could afford, and to have her thoroughlie instructed in all those qualities, that are anie vvayes requisite for the making-up of a most compleate gentlewoman, viz perfect skill in all kind of needlevvork, the french language, dauncing, musick; the lute, and other instruments. And her desire, of returning to her father on the said grounds, beeing so full

of pietie and reason, I  
would long since have  
accomplished it, if the  
publick condition of  
Ireland, and the conve-  
niency of mine owne  
affaires, would in anie  
wise have given way to  
it. Which she per-  
fectlie well knowing,  
and that it was not want  
of good will, that hin-  
dered me from giving her  
satisfaction in this parti-  
cular; she strove to con-  
tent herselfe the best she  
could, and to console her

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 81

longing vvith these hopes, that the same lets, vvhich hindered us for the present from returning to Dublin, vvould not last alvvayes; but that the times mending, she vvould yet goe back to Ireland, and there be a stay and comfort to her good father all the remainder of his dayes. But it hath pleased God to dispose othervvise of it, and in her to deprive him, as vvell as me, of the chiefeft ioy that vvce



82 Character of  
had in this vvorld.

## XII

As she esteemed it her  
greatest happines, that  
God had done her the  
grace to call her to the  
knowvledge of his sa-  
ving truth, and to the  
assured hopes of ever-  
lasting blisse, by making  
her a christian, of the  
Reformed Religion, and  
that reallie and sincerely,  
not in outvvard profes-  
sion onely; for vvhich

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 83

she gave dailie most heartie thanks unto his Divine Majestie : so she accounted it one of her greatest temporall blessings, to be of a good extraction. And that indeed vvas as good, as anie could be under the degree of nobilitie : the Dungans ( of vvhich house her father, Thomas Dungan, Iustice of the Court of Common Pleas at Dublin, is a younger brother ) beeing of the auncientest and

best gentrie of Ireland,  
and allied not onelic  
vvith most of the prime  
gentrie of the Pale, as  
the Talbots, the Roche-  
forts, the Ashpooles, the  
VVogans, etc. but even  
vvith severall Noble hou-  
ses. And as for her ma-  
ternall line, that vvas no  
vvayes inferiour to the  
other: the Palmers of  
Nottinghamshire ( of  
vvhich her mother, Grace  
Palmer, vvas borne ) al-  
though but a younger  
braunch of the Palmers

*Mrs Marg Boate.* 85

of Lemington, in the  
countie of Gloucester, ha-  
ving alvvayes subsisted  
verie honourable, and  
been reckoned among  
the best houses of that  
countrie. And she  
set so high a value upon  
this qualitie, that if it  
had been possible for her  
to forgoe vvhat nature  
and her birth had given  
her, she vvould not have  
accepted of the vvealth  
and splendour of a Prin-  
cesse, on condition of  
not beeing borne a



gentlevvoman. Yet  
for all this no bodie did  
or could more, than she,  
despise a gentleman or  
gentlevvoman, vvwhose  
qualities and actiōs vvwere  
not correspondent to  
their extraction. and not  
onelic vice and vvicked-  
nes made her loose all  
esteeme in their behalfe  
(as to the contrarie she  
greatlie valued even the  
meanest persons, in  
vvhom she perceived  
true goodnes and vertue)  
but also ill-bred carria-

*Mrs Marg Boate.* 87

ge, and all incivilitie and rudenes : using to say oftentimes, that in vaine they stood upon their gentrie, though descended of never so good houses, vvhose behaviour and manners vvere grosse and plebejan; and beeing herselfe not onelie verie civill, after the exactest and compleatest manner, but vvonderfull gentill in all her actions, by nature as vvell as by education, and so vvithout all affectation. and she

would come-off vvoder-  
full hand-somelic vvith  
all kind of complements,  
having naturallic a greate  
veine and copiousnes  
that vvay, both in vvri-  
ting of letters, and in  
discourfing; and yet  
beeing verie judicious in  
not making use of them  
but verie feasonable, and  
as vvas most fitting and  
requisite according to  
the diversitie of the feve-  
rall occasions.

VVithall she vvas a grea-  
te hater of all proud and  
haughtie

haughtie deportments:  
beeing herselfe so cour-  
teous and affable, not  
onely to her equals, but  
also to her inferiours,  
those of the verie meanest  
sort not excepted, that  
had anie occasion to  
come at her, as she vvon  
their hearts extreamlie.  
vvherefore also not onely  
her friends, but also  
all those mechanick and  
ministeriall persons, vvho  
either used to come con-  
stantlie to the house, and  
to be imployed by her,



or had at anie time had  
anie dealing at all vwith  
her, vvere extreamlie  
grieved at her decease;  
there beeing verie few  
of that vvhole number,  
vvhoe did not vvitness  
their sorrovv for it vwith  
abundance of teares.

And yet her carriage  
tovvards this kind of  
people vvas ever verie  
free from all meanenes,  
she behaving herselfe  
vwith an exact mediocri-  
tie betvvixt scornfull  
content and an over-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 91  
popular familiaritie.

XIII.

Beeing of a verie sociable nature, she loved good companie verie much, and to spend some houres at convenient times in making or receiving visits. And as she was fit for all kind of discourses, and could not onelie be content, but took greate delight in entering and dwelling on serious matters, vvhe-

92 *Character of*  
ther of state-affaires and  
the passages of the times,  
or of things belonging  
to Moraltie or Divinitie,  
vwhen that the grauitie  
of the companie, or other  
good occasions made  
them necessary or sea-  
sonable ; she acquitting  
herselfe verie vvifelic and  
solidlic of them , to the  
greate satisfaction of  
them that she discour-  
sed vvithall : so natu-  
rallie she vvas verie much  
taken vvith all kind of  
vvittie conversation , ha-

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 93

ving herselfe a verie ready  
vvit, and a verie quick  
apprehension ; by reason  
vwhere-off also she vvas  
ever verie apt to learne.  
and as she attained verie  
soon, beeing yet a child,  
to all those things, that  
she vvas instructed in,  
even to admiration ; so  
since our comming to  
Paris she perfected her-  
selfe in the french ton-  
gue in much lesse time,  
than vwhat is usuall unto  
most others. And for  
the same reason she bore



24      *Character of*  
also a greate love to all  
other productions of  
vvit, especiallie to good  
verses and poemes, and  
to elegant vvell contri-  
ved Romants, or fained  
histories, such as Sidneys  
Arcadia, Astrea, Ariana,  
the Illustrious Bashavv,  
and above all those two  
late ones of Mons<sup>r</sup> de  
Calleprenette, so much  
admired universallie, Cas-  
sandra and Cleopatra; on  
the reading of vvich  
choice Romants she did  
vvith much contentment

*Mrs. Marg. Boate.* 95

bestovv some part of her  
time novv and then :  
beeing vvonderfullie  
pleased , as vvith the  
beautie of their language  
and conceptions, so vvith  
the characters off all  
kind of heroicall vertues,  
vvhich therein are held  
forth most livelie in the  
persons of both sexes.

But as greate a lover as  
she vvas of vvitt, and of  
all the productions of it;  
the least mixture of pro-  
phanenes , obscenenes ,  
or lasciviousnes , did so

fovre them unto her, as she did not onelie loose all pleasure in them, vvhhen so tainted, but she did perfectlie loath and detest them.

## XIV.

She vvas also vvonderfull discreet in her conversation, and ever used a singular care and circumspection in not giving anie offence to anie bodie ; avoiding not onelie all kind of taunts,

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 97

reproaches, and bitter  
icsts and scoffes ( the  
vvhich she also verie  
much condemned in  
others, vvho used them  
before her ) but all con-  
tention and contradi-  
ction, even vvhere the  
argument maintained  
vvvas no vvayes to her  
mind; except the matter  
vvvas of that importaun-  
ce, as she thought her-  
selfe bound to expresse  
her dislike or contrary  
judgement about it;  
vvhich so itselfe she



would doe wvith much  
wvarynes and mildnes.

And although that in  
them, wvith wvhom she  
conversed, she could in  
no wvise avway wvith va-  
nitie and bragging; nor  
wvith lying or unlikelie  
tales, those tvvo faults  
becing point blanck con-  
trary to her ovvn dispo-  
sition and praetise; as  
not neither wvith stupa-  
ditie and dulnes, a defect  
so extreamlie remote  
from her nature: yet out  
of meere strength of

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 99

judgement (vvhervvith  
God had indovved her  
in a greate measure, al-  
though for the most part  
vvit and judgement doe  
not use to goe together)  
she had brought herselfe  
to so absolute a habit of  
patientlie induring those  
and other impertinécies,  
as she vvould not in the  
least ~~now~~ expresse her  
dislike there-off unto  
them, that she found  
guiltie of the same, nor  
in anie vvise take notice  
there-off, by her vvords

A  
B  
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I

or actions. And as in these, so in all other particulars, she studied to render herself altogether complaisant, or complying, unto them, vvith vvhom she did converse, though manie times greatlie against her ovvne liking: never breaking the rule, vvwhich here-in she had prescribed unto herselfe, but vvhere by decencie, honour, or conscience, she found herselfe indispenfcable obliged to the contrary.

XV. ~~XV~~ XV

She that vvas thus circum-  
spect in giving no  
offence by her vvords  
and conversation, may  
easilie be conceived to  
have been verie farre  
from beeing offensive in  
her actions. And so she  
vvvas indeed, having a  
perpetuall vvatch over  
herselfe, not to doe anie  
thing, vvhere at anie bo-  
die might iustlie be offen-  
ded: but to the contrary

L



omitting no occasions of  
doing every bodie all the  
good offices , that anie  
vvayes lay in her povver,  
and taking a singular  
pleasure in obliging  
others. And this she did  
vvith so much generosi-  
tie , that vvhere-as she  
never lost the memorie  
of anie good turnes, that  
had been done her by  
others , but vvould use  
all possible meanes for to  
requite them, and on all  
occasions expresse her  
sence and thankfull

acknowledgement of  
the same ; so on the con-  
trary she never thought  
much of the good she  
had done to others, and  
could not indure to  
speake of it, or to have  
it spoke off, anie kind  
of vway, much lesse by  
vway of upbraiding; even  
not in case of unthank-  
fulnes, and vwhere the  
parties obliged vvere al-  
together unmindfull of  
the benefits received, or  
furthermore so farre fer-  
gate themselves, as to

104      *Character of*  
requite good vvith evill.

Neither could anie such provocation at anie time prevaile vvith her, for to discover other folkes secrets, not onelic such, as had been confided to her by the parties themselves; but even those, that othervvise and accidentallie vvere come to her knowvledge. And as she vvvas thus exact and conscientious in the concealing of secrets; so never anie bodie gave lesse vvay to that curiositie,

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 105  
so ordinarie in the vvorld,  
of inquiring into the  
condition and affaires of  
other people: beeing so  
farre from seeking to  
pry into them, as she  
vvould not give anie the  
least incouragement unto  
such, vvho upon occa-  
sion, and of their ovvn  
accord, did happen at  
anie time to make anie  
such thing knowne un-  
to her.

XVI.

VVhat I have said of



106      *Character of*  
her greate complying in  
conversacion , even to  
the induring patientlie of  
the faults , defects , and  
impertinencies of others,  
is the more to be admi-  
red , because that natu-  
rallie , and by the temper  
of her bodie , she vvas  
much inclined to be cho-  
lerick , and to be vexed  
at anie thing , great or  
small, that vvas not to her  
mind. But never anie  
bodie of that constitu-  
tion did more earnestlie  
and more effectuatlie

strive to overcome it: vvhetherby as she had made a greate progres tovwards the acquiring of a contrary habit, insomuch as manie times she vvould put-up not onelie small matters, but even greate and sensible offences, vvithout beeing much mooved at them, and verie ordinatilie, for to avoid all occasion of putting herselfe into anie heate, dissemble the faults and misdoings of her servants, and of others, if

she vvas not absolutelie necessitated to take notice of them : so at the vvorst, and even vvhen that the suddainnes of some un - expected provocation or indignitie vvrought on her naturall disposition, and stirred her up to anger; the vvorst effects of it vv ere no other, than some sharp expressions. For she never knevv vvhat it vvas to use injuries, or opprobrious language, much lesse anie further effects

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 109  
of choller, no not to her  
ovvn servants, though  
never so much mooved.  
And as her anger vvas  
thus gentle, so it vvas  
vvonderfull short, pas-  
sing avway in a moment;  
especiallie if those, vvith  
vvhom she vvas offended,  
did not by their obstina-  
cie and offensive replies  
minister anie nevve fevvell  
to it. And no sooner  
vvas she come to herselfe,  
but she vvould be the  
first in condemning her-  
selfe, if she found that



*Character of*  
she had at all overshoot  
herselfe, and spoke anie  
thing more harshlie or  
tartlie, than she thought  
she ought to have done.

## XVII.

She vvas a greate lover  
of Peace : and as the de-  
sire of preserving it to  
herselfe, made her ex-  
treame vvary of offēding  
others in the least man-  
ner, either by vvord or  
deed, vvwhich might mi-  
nister anie cause or pre-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.*    *iii*

text unto them of falling-  
out vvith her; and to dis-  
semble anie such offence  
given to herselfe by  
others, if the nature of  
it, or the manner of com-  
mitting it, dit not make  
it altogether incapable of  
beeing dissembled: so she  
vvas ever verie studious,  
of preserving it also  
among others. For to  
tell tales, vvhereby to  
make people have an evill  
opinion one of another,  
and to set them by the  
cares together, vvas a

112 Character of  
thing utterlie unknowne  
to her, as to her owne  
practice, and extreame  
detested by her in them  
that vvere guiltie of it.  
And if it fell out so,  
as some times it did, that  
two persons of her ac-  
quaintance, beeing either  
openlie fallen-out amog  
themselves, or bearing  
some secret grudge one  
to another, told her  
things to the prejudice  
of their adversaries: she  
would be so farre from  
giving the parties inter-  
ested

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boare.* 115

sted anie full or cleere  
knowvledge of the things  
that had been so vvhispe-  
red unto her, or making  
anie direct relation there-  
off to them, as she vvould  
not so much as give them  
the least hint of anie such  
matter.

And vvhere-  
as her good mother had  
ever observed, not to  
suffer her children to  
come and tell her her sto-  
ries of the servants, even  
vvhe that reallie they had  
done something amiss,  
least they should get a

**M**



114 Character of  
habit, if countenanced  
there-in, of tale-telling;  
so my deare Love vvas re-  
solved, and had begun,  
to observe the same rule  
towards our children,  
that vveaning them from  
their infancie of that vice,  
so hatefull to her, of  
being make-bates, and  
fouers of discord and di-  
uision; she might forme  
them to the contrary ver-  
tue, consonant to her  
own constant practice,  
of rather excusing other  
folkes actions, and ma-

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Beate.* 115  
king ever the best of the  
same, vvhwhereby to prefer-  
ve peace and quiernes.

## XVIII.

God having indovved  
her vvith a verie large  
share of handsomnes,  
and given her vvith a  
middlemost stature (som-  
vvhat inclining to the  
lesse, but vvonderfull  
neatlie timbred, vvith a  
most exact shape and pro-  
portion of all her limbs)  
a verie lovelie face, made-

up of singular good features, an excellent eye, a most fine skinne, and a verie pure complexion: she vvas verie vvilling and carefull to preserve those advantages, that God had bestovved on her, both by some particulars of her diet, and by all other lauvfull meanes: but verie much detested to make use of anie thing, that vvas a fard, or in the least manner approached of it.

And as she could not chuse but be conscious to

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 117

herfelfe of thofe advantages, that ſhe poſſeſſed in this, and in other particulars, and vvas heartlie glad of them: ſo ſhe made no other uſe thereof, than to thank God for hauing giuen her them; beeing verie farre from taking anie pride or vanitie in them, and from deſpiſing others for wanting them. And where-as verie few vwomen are handſome in the eyes of thoſe of their ovyne ſexe; it beeing a

M 3



118      *Character of*  
verie generall infirmitie  
in it, so to be blinded  
vvith envious emulation,  
as either not to see at all  
those advantages, vvhich  
others doe possesse in this  
and other particulars, or  
to see them vvith greate  
diminution: ( as on the  
contrary verie fewv of  
them are deemed other  
than handsome by them-  
selves, though never so  
farre from it ) my Love  
vvvas so much of a diffe-  
rent a disposition, as no  
man could be more fa-

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 119

yourable in judging of  
womens handsoinnes,  
and of their other good  
qualities; nor more vvil-  
ling and forvvard to pro-  
fesse as much, and vvith  
greatest candour to give  
unto every one, upon all  
occasions, the commen-  
dations they deserved.

## XIX

She vvvas vvonderfull  
neate about herselfe, and  
about her house, and a

*Character of*  
greate lover of decencie  
and comelynes about  
both, loving fine and  
fashionable apparell well,  
and handsome furniture  
likevise; but neither of  
them vvith excesse. For  
although she vvould have  
taken a verie large scope  
in them, if she vvould  
have meerlie folloved  
her naturall inclination,  
vvhich vvould have car-  
ried her to the utmost,  
that could have stood  
vvith her purse and qua-  
litie: yet reason and grace

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 125

were so prevalent vwith  
her, as made her verie  
much abate of those de-  
sires, and made her much  
more moderate in them,  
than most other persons,  
even such as are other-  
wise both good and gra-  
cious, vvould have been  
in the same case. And  
every day she grevv visi-  
ble to a greater perfe-  
ction in this particular,  
and to have her heart  
lesse and lesse set upon  
those outvvard orna-  
ments; often expressing



*Character of*  
her dislike of those, whose  
minds beeing altogether  
fixed on the adorning  
and setting out of  
these tēporarie lodgings,  
and perishable bodie,  
vvhich vvithin a little  
vvhile must be relinquish-  
ed, and reduced to dust  
and corruption, have no  
thoughts of adorning  
their soules vvith true ver-  
tue and pietie, the onelie  
true ornaments of chris-  
tians, that are to last for  
ever, and to be rewarded  
vvith eternall happynes,

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 123  
and blessed immortalitie.

**X X.**

She vvas a greate lover  
of truth, and by reason  
there-off did not onelie  
detest all kind of lyes,  
especiallic such as vvere  
any vvayes malicious, or  
prejudiciall to others, and  
tended to the detorring  
and depraving of their  
sayings or actions; but  
vvas vvonderfull exact in  
keeping her vvord, and  
in making good her pro-

124 Character of  
wives, though made ne-  
ver so cursorilie or super-  
ficialle, and that even in  
the smallest matters, as  
well as in those of grea-  
ter moment. For she  
was fullie perswaded,  
that people are as much  
bound, both in honour  
and in conscience, to ac-  
complish a bare and vo-  
luntary promise, as anie  
formall contract, confir-  
med with an oath, and  
with all other binding  
solemnities. And as she  
ever conformed her own  
practice

*Mrs Mary. Boate.* 125

practice there-unto, so  
she laboured to induce  
all others, in vvhom she  
had anie interest, to doe  
the same, and rather to  
suffer any inconvenience,  
or losse, than to find-out  
a pretext of going from  
their vvord: representing  
unto them, as unto her-  
selfe, that one ought to  
promise nothing incon-  
siderate lie, but to think  
vvell of it, before one  
ingage ones selfe: but ha-  
ving once passed ones  
vvord, that then there

N



remaineth nothing else,  
but performance, if the  
matter promised be law-  
full and possible. And  
as in all other parts of her  
life, so in this too; she  
had a singular care of  
vvalking by that golden  
rule, to deale so vvith  
others, as she did desire  
to be dealt vvithall her-  
selfe. Love to truth  
made her also verie im-  
partiall, not onelic in the  
behalfe of strangers, but  
euen of herselfe, and of  
all her neerest relations:

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 127

judging of all vvith the  
same unbiaſſed equitie  
and equalitie, both in  
questions of interest and  
of concernment, and in  
those concerning the na-  
ture of actions, and of  
qualificatiōs of the mind  
and of the bodie.

XXI.

She vvvas extreamlie  
fearefull of her nature,  
insomuch as she vvould  
figure unto herselfe and  
apprehēd dangers, vvhere  
there vvvas none at all;  
especiallie upon the vva-

ter: and not onelie upon the sea, vvhether all things at the best appeared verie terrible unto her, but upon the verie rivers: so as it vvas death to her at London, to come into a boate, though the vvater vvas never so calme. and even here at Paris, in those boats used upon the Seine ( incomparablie bigger and surer, than those of the Thames) she thought herselfe every jot as unsafe. and though she vvould novv and then be persvva-

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 129

ded vwith much adoe, to  
goe by vvater to Chaten-  
ton, or to Chaliot, yet  
her mind vvas at no ease  
nor quiet, as long as she  
vvas upon the river, even  
in the fairest and stillest  
vweather. Yet grace and  
reason did so oversvway  
this her naturall timou-  
rousnes, as notvvhitstan-  
ding the greate excessse of  
it, there vvas nothing so  
terrible, but she could  
resolve to undergoe it,  
either for the maintai-  
ning of a good cause, or



130      *Character of*  
anie other vway called to  
it by God; and nothing  
so hazardous, but she  
could be induced to it  
upon good grounds, and  
at the appearance of anie  
necessitie, or greate con-  
veniencie. This vvas the  
reason, that she, vvho all  
trembled and quaked at  
the least apprehension of  
death, and at the least  
shaddovv of anie danger,  
though but an imagina-  
rie one, thorough the se-  
cret and suddain motions  
of her naturall infirmitie

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 131

in that particular ; could  
in a settled mind think on  
death , and that under  
any shape, with as much  
quietnes of mind , and  
undauntednes , as more  
could not be expected of  
a most valourous war-  
riour, or of a man con-  
summate in courageous  
wisdom. And that this  
was not a delusion, hath  
well appeared by the  
effect ; she having looked  
death in the face, without  
being in the least man-  
ner appalled at it, during

this last period of her life, and ever since those greate and frequent losses of blood, vvhich at length have carried her avway, gave her iust cause to conceive herselfe in danger of it; as she did to the full, from the beginning.

For although that after every fit, except the verie last of all, she came still verie vvell to herselfe again, (as hath been more at full declared at the entrance of this treatise) yet ever since the first of

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 133

them her mind gave her,  
that she vvould not out-  
live them, but that assu-  
redlie they vvould make  
an end of her.

VVherefore, for to pre-  
pare me for her death,  
vvhich she knew vvould  
be most grievous to me  
(according to the exces-  
sive love I bore her) she  
vvould often talke of it,  
not onelie about the time  
of those fits, and vvhen  
she vvvas newlie come out  
of them, but even at other  
times, and farre from



134      *Character of*  
them.      And although  
every foot I vvould faine  
have hindered her of spea-  
king of it, the thought  
of loosing her beeing so  
unsupportable to me, as  
I could not indure the  
least mention of it; yet  
she vvould still goe on,  
notvvhitstanding all my  
opposition, and frequent  
interruptions, telling me;  
that it vvas good alvvayes  
to think of the vvorst,  
and that it vvould be ne-  
ver the more, for talking  
of it.      Novv the summe

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg Boate. 135*

of those her discourses,  
tending ever to the same  
purpose, vvas, That she  
nothing at all apprehen-  
ded death, but vvas most  
vvilling to undergoe it,  
if it pleased God so to  
dispose of her; finding  
nothing in it to trouble  
her, but the thought of  
the sorrovv, vvwhich that  
separation vvould cause  
unto me: beseeching me,  
if so it fell out, to use my  
vvhole strength for to  
hinder me from succom-  
bing under it, and for to

136 *Character of*  
make me beare that affliction patientlie. and to make this her counsell sink the deeper into my mind, she vvould make use, as of other confiderations, so of that of our girle, vvwhose losse vvould be too greate, if vvith the mother she should also come to loose her father, and that in a strange countrie, farre from all her friends and kindred: vvherefore I ought to doe all I could for to preserve me for her. and that

vvvas

vvas all she ever said of  
her to me on that occa-  
sion. For knowing full  
well, that next to herselfe  
I loved her most perfect-  
lie, as much as a child can  
be beloved by a father; she  
knew it superfluous to tal-  
ke to me, of being care-  
full and tender of her, and  
of making much of her.

And these same things  
of her finding nothing  
in her death to trouble  
her, but the grief it vould  
cause unto me; vwith the  
vvonnted adjuations, that

O



I would strive to moderate it for Gods sake, and for her sake, and to preserve my selfe for our girle ) she repeated to me severall times in that short space, that vvas betvvixt her last fit, and her end: the abundance of teares, vvvhich her imminent danger, frequent faintings, and greate paines and tossings, drew from me, giuing her occasion to renew that counsell so oft unto me, vvhere-off she sayv I had so much need

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 139

alreadie, and vvould have much more shortlie after. And she continued to expresse this christian resolution, accōpanied vvith so much tendernes of love tovvards me ( of not apprehending death at all in her ovvn regard, but onelie in mine ) to the verie last, as long as she vvas able to expresse anie thing, and vvhen that she vvas novv at the verie point of death, and had it even vvithin her, and upon her lips. For a little

before she lost her speech,  
after one of her grievou-  
fest and last tossings,  
when the sight and sense  
of what she indured, and  
the most evident signes of  
the inevitableness of her  
losse, had caused me, in a  
transport of sorrow, to  
throw my selfe upon the  
bed by her side with abun-  
dance of teares, she said  
in french (the language  
she had onely spoke  
all that night, because  
that all the persons in the  
room understood it, and

*Mrs Marg. Beate.* 141

most of them understood  
no other ) *Voilà tout le mal,*  
that is, *Loe there all the euill:*  
the meaning of vvhich  
vvords, verie intelligible  
to me by vvhat so often  
before she had expressed  
more at large unto me,  
vvvas, That she vvvas sensi-  
ble or apprehensive of no  
ill to herselfe in her death,  
but onelic of the euill and  
grief it did and vvould  
cause unto me. And she  
spoke this thus shortlie,  
because that speaking be-  
gun novv to be some-

O 3



142 Character of  
vvhhat troublesome and  
difficult unto her. Neither  
doe I knowv , that she  
spoke anie thing else after  
it, but that she gave her  
blessing to her child,  
vvhom she sawv stand  
most sadlie at the beds  
foot (the poore lamb ta-  
king the mothers case to  
heart much beyond vvhhat  
is usuall in so young an  
age) and gave and asked,  
vvhith svveteest expressiōs,  
accompanied vvhith most  
svvete and tender looks,  
an assurance of of a pe-

fect forgiveness of anie  
displeasure, that at anie  
time might have been  
caused by the one of us  
to the other. For after  
that beeing risen, for to  
give the midwife and the  
nurse-keeper vway to  
exchange her to another  
place, as she had desired:  
I found, vwhen that vvas  
done, and that I came  
again to her, that she had  
lost her speech, though  
not yet her senses. For  
a melle of broth, with  
some medicinall thing in

it, vvhich Dr Sarrafin and the Midvvife judged proper for her, and desired her to take, hauing been refused by her; as tired by the greate varietie of cordials and other things, that had been given to her since the beginning of the fit, and finding it now althogether bootlesse, to take anie thing vvhatsocuer: assoon as I had rendered it unto her, and prayed her to take it for my sake, she took it verie readilie, and took-douvn

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 145

every drop of it. And  
having not long after also  
lost her senses, she conti-  
nued in that estate the  
matter of a quarter of an  
houre longer: and hauing  
been verie quiet and cal-  
me this last halfe houre of  
her life (all her paines and  
pangs having quite left  
her, and her tossings  
beeing quite ceased vvith  
them) she vvent-out like  
a candle, and gave up her  
ghost most quietlie:  
going herselfe to take  
possession of heavenlie



146      *Character of*  
blisse, but leaving me full  
of most grievous and  
mortall sorrow, to last  
as long as my dayes; there  
beeing nothing on this  
earth, that can make-up  
unto me that joy and  
comfort, vvhich I have  
lost by loosing her dea-  
rest companie.

## XXII.

Her greate resolution  
against death, and her  
courageous content of  
all the terrours of it, to

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Bonte.* 147

the verie last moment; as  
it vvas altogether contra-  
ry to her naturall disposi-  
tion, so it proceeded  
vvhollie from divine  
grounds, and from the  
gracious assistaunce of  
Gods blessed spirit, quick-  
ning and strengthening  
her faith in the mercie of  
God, thorough the me-  
rits of Christs precious  
blood, and of his bitter  
death and passion: her  
heart beeing anchored in  
an unshaken assurance on  
those infallible promises

148 Character of  
of our blessed Saviour,

Ioh. 3. That who-so ever beleueth  
14. & in him, shall not perish, but  
5. 4. have everlasting life, and not  
24. & come into condemnation, but  
6. 51. passe from death unto life, and  
&c. live for ever. V Which her  
faith she expressed fre-  
quentlie, as in former  
times, so during these her  
last moments; especiallie  
after that the continuance  
of her bleeding, longer  
than it had been yet  
in anie former fit, her fre-  
quent faintings, the per-  
plexitie of the midwife,  
and

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 149

and of the rest of her friends and people about her, their vvhispering together, and the sending-for of M<sup>r</sup> Drelincourt, one of the french Ministers of Charenton, had made her comprehend cleerlie, that she vvvas novv come to the last period of her life. And having expressed greate joy and contentment at the sight of M<sup>r</sup> Drelin-court, it beeing betvvixt eight and nine of the clock vvhen he came; she

P



150      *Character of*  
presentlie composed her-  
selfe for to heare his ex-  
hortation , and to pray  
vwith him. His exhorta-  
tion vvas indeed a most  
heavenlie one, the summe  
of it beeing , that she  
should absolutelie resi-  
gne herselfe into the  
hands of God, either for  
life or for death; that she  
should cast herselfe into  
the armes of Christ Iesus,  
and in his name, and for  
his merits sake , aske of  
God forgivenes of all her  
faults and transgressions,

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 151

vwith a certain assurance of obtaining it. that beein reconciled to God by the blood and mediation of our Saviour, death vvas not all to be feared by her, because it vvould be no death to her, but a passage from this vale of misery to life and joy everlasting: vwith many other most excellent expressions, fitted to her present condition, and for to make her quit this life vwith alacritic. and after that folloved the

prayer, tending to the same purposes: during both vvhich, though they vvere of a greate length, and that her paines and unquietnes vvere growing on her before they vvere begun, she lay verie still, giuing greate attention to them, and follovving the all along vvith up-lifted hands and eyes, as likewise vvith her voice upon all the most pregnāt passages of them. And after that they vvere done, she assured me, that

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 153

her heart too had fullie  
gone along vvith them  
from the beginning to  
the end, and that she had  
found a greate deale of  
singular comfort and cō-  
solatiō in them. VVhere-  
fore also vvhen that M<sup>r</sup>  
Drelincourt, after he had  
done, vvithdrevv himsele  
into the next roome, for  
to give vvay to me, to D<sup>r</sup>  
Sarrafīn, to the midvvife  
and keeper, and to the  
rest of the vvomen, to  
come about her, for to  
give her something, and



to afford her other necessary accommodations: she thinking, that he had gone avway for good and all, sent after him, for to pray him not to leave her, but to stay vvith her to the end, for to renevv unto her from time to time that spirituall comfort, vvhich he had begun so effectuallie to minister unto her. And he having sent her vvord, that he had no other intétion, came presentlie back into the chamber again: and

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate.* 155

from that time he never  
quit her to the last, con-  
forting her from time to  
time (as the intermissions  
of her faintings, and of  
her anguish and tossings,  
ministred opportunitie)  
vvith short exhortations,  
and vvith ejaculatorie  
prayers; the vvhich vv ere  
still most cordiallie recei-  
ved and follovved by her.  
And in all those paines  
and anxieties she never  
spoke an impatiēt vvord,  
but that sometimes she  
exclaimed, *Ce jeune cœur*

*ne se veut rendre*, that is,  
*This young heart will not*  
*yeeld.* For her heart beeing  
in its full strength and  
vigour, as not at all aba-  
ted by anie sicknes,  
struggled hard vvith  
death, caused by meere  
emptynes, and the losse  
of blood; vvhich thing  
also she had apprehended:  
she having told your  
Lordship but the day be-  
fore, that as she feared  
not death at all, so the  
paines, vvhich she expe-  
cted to indure before it,

*Mrs Marg. Boate.* 157

did somevvhat terrifie  
her. Yet neither the ex-  
pectation of them, vvhen  
yet absent, nor the sence  
of them, vvhen she novv  
suffered them, did in the  
least manner shake her  
resolutiō and vvillingnes  
to dye, nor her affiance  
in the goodnes and mer-  
cie of her Saviour, as not  
neither her tender care of  
me: but having continued  
constant in them all, and  
the Lord hauing done her  
the grace, to give her ease,  
and to free her from those



158      *Character of*  
disquieting paines, before  
he tooke her avway, she  
concluded her life vwith  
a most blessed end, to the  
great edification, yea and  
admiration, of all the  
standers by, even such as  
vvère of a contrary Reli-  
gion.

*Now, Mylord, let all  
the vvorld judge vvith your  
Lordship, vvether having  
lost such a vvife, so good, so  
gracious, so loving, so lovelie,  
so accomplished every vvay,  
and that in the verie flower*

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg Boate. 159*

*of her age , vvhhen she vvas  
but fve and tvventy yeares  
old ; I can grieve moderately;  
and vvether my sorrow  
can be justlie cōdemned, though  
verie excessive and lasting.*

*I knowv the Lord hath done  
me no vvrong , in taking her  
from me , vvho vvas his  
ovvn , and in using that right  
over her, vvvhich he hath over  
all his creatures, as Souverain  
Lord and Master, vvhereby  
it is free for him, to dispose of  
them at anie time as he plea-  
seth : and I knowv also, that  
I have given his divine Ma-*

jestie cause enough, to send me  
 this crosse, and anie other that  
 I am capable off. But these  
 considerations as they are of  
 force for to make me take this  
 crosse at his hands without  
 murmuring (the which I  
 trust to have done exactlie,  
 not having had the least tem-  
 ptation of calling his justice  
 into question, for having dealt  
 thus with me) so I find them  
 not sufficient for to hinder me  
 of being sensible to the full of  
 the evill, that he hath insti-  
 tuted on me. neither doe I be-  
 lieve, that when he sendeth  
 anie

M<sup>rs</sup> Margal. Boad her life and conversation

Mrs Mary Boate. 161

anie grievous calamitie to his  
servants, he is offended w<sup>th</sup>  
them, for seeing their sorrow  
proportionable to the bitterness  
of w<sup>h</sup>at he maketh them suf-  
fer. For in this verie particu-  
lar, w<sup>h</sup>ich is now my case,  
my w<sup>o</sup>efull and deplorable  
case; I find, that w<sup>h</sup>en he  
thought good, in taking from  
the Prophet Ezechiel, the de-  
sire of his eyes ( as he hath  
done mine from me ) to forbid  
him, for some mysterious signi-  
fication, all outw<sup>ard</sup> expres-  
sions of mourning, even the  
verie shedding of teares: yet

Ezech.  
24.15.  
& seq.

Q.



161 Character of  
he no wayes forbid him to  
grievareallie and inuwardlie,  
but rather gave him a com-  
mand, or at the least an ex-  
presse permission, for doing so,  
by the first words of the 17.  
verse, if they be taken in their  
right sense, as hath been done  
by S. Hierome, and some others  
of the best Interpreters. For  
as for that high degree of heroi-  
call vertue and wuisdome, of  
not onelie not beeing verie  
deeplie touched wwith anie  
crosse or affliction, though ne-  
ver so bitter and cruell, but of  
finding even matter of joy in

Mrs Mary Boate. 163  
it, and of giving God thanks  
for it: as I admire it in them  
that possesse it, so I confesse to  
be verie farre from it, and to  
see little ground of hoping ever  
to attaine to it; especiallie in  
this particular, which hath  
lighted upon the tenderest and  
least armed part of my soule.

And my case is the more to  
be pittied, because that ha-  
ving lost in my dearest Con-  
sort that which I most loved,  
and where-in I most joyed in  
this world, and thereby my  
life beeing become burdensome  
and hatefull to me; yet there


Q<sup>2</sup>

164 Character of  
lyeth upon me a cruell necessi-  
tie, not onelie of not abandon-  
ning or vvilfullie neglecting it  
( which I would not doe  
howeuer, because absolute-  
lie forbidden by him, whose  
holie vwill and commandemēt  
must be the rule of all our  
actions ) but even of desiring  
and striving vwith all possible  
care to uphold and to prolong  
it, for to preserve myselfe for  
that deare pledge of our mu-  
tuall love, which she hath left  
me ; both because mine owne  
affection, agreeable to the dicta-  
tes of God and Nature, leadeth

Mrs Marg. Boate. 165  
me stronglie there-unto; and  
because that that blessed soule  
hath in her latter dayes, even  
to the last moments of her life,  
made it so often her most serious  
request to me, and her onelic  
request: the which not to seek  
to fulfill to the utmost, as farre  
as anie wayes lyeth in my  
powver (though nothing else  
obliged me to it) I would ac-  
count a crime of the next nature  
to sacriledge. So as I must re-  
solve to live many yeares yet,  
if God so see it fitting, yea and  
wvish and indeavour to doe  
so, though all the sweetnes of



166 Character of  
my life be taken from me, and  
that I see nothing but thick  
clouds of dismall darknes before  
me; vvhich make death unto  
me, as to my selfe, infinirelie  
preferable before life. For  
even the memorie of her ver-  
tues, as on the one side it mini-  
streth some kind of contentmēt  
and comfort to me, especiallie  
vvhen I consider the blessed  
revvard there-off, vvhich she  
nowv reapeth in heave, vvhere  
in the presence of God she in-  
joyeth the fulnes of joy, all tea-  
res beeing vviped-off from her  
eyes: so on the other side it doth



M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate. 167

mainlie aggravate my sorrow, because that the greater they were, and the rest of her most desircable and lovelie qualities, the greater is my losse, in beeing deprived of her. But be her dearest Idea matter of comfort to me, or matter of sorrow, it shall ever and incessantlie be present to my soule, and therein to the end of my dayes take up that vvhole roome, vvhich a christian, vvithout offence to his Creatour and Saviour, and vvith a due sub-ordination to that love, vvhich is owing

Q 4

168 Character of  
to him in the first place, can  
lawfullie afford to anie thing  
created; just in the same man-  
ner, as she did possesse it during  
that time, that I was blessed  
with that greate happynes  
of injoying her most amiable  
companie. I should never  
have done, Mylord, if I  
would take that scope in  
dwelling on this theame,  
which my affection and grief  
doth prompt unto me. But  
feare of importuning your  
Lordship constraineth me to  
breake off: and so with my  
most heartie thanks for all

Es. Struckon agh

*M<sup>rs</sup> Marg. Boate. 169*  
those friendlie and pious paines,  
which ever since this  
fatall blow you have taken,  
and doe still take daylie, in  
endeavouring to heale this  
deep and incurable wound,  
and to minister all spirituall  
comfort to me, I remaine

*Your Lordships most obliged  
and humble, but desolate  
and disconsolate servant,*

*ARNOLD BOATE.*

*Paris this 24.  
of May  
1651.*



D. O. M. S.  
LECTISSIMÆ FOEMINÆ,  
MARGARITÆ DVNGAN:  
ANIMI PIETATE  
ET PROBITATE;  
AMORE AC FIDE IN DEVM;  
PVRIORIS RELI-  
GIONIS ZELO,  
CHARITATE IN PROXIMOS;  
PHILOSTORGIA IN MARI-  
TVM, LIBEROS, PARENTES,  
MODESTIA, CASTITATE,  
BENIGNITATE, LIBERA-  
LITATE, COMITATE;  
EXIMIE ORNATÆ:  
ETIAM IVSTITIÆ AC  
VERITATIS AMORE;  
PRVDENTIA; GENE-  
ROSITATE;  
RELIQVIS VIRTVTIBVS,  
SVpra SEXVM ET ANNOS,  
PRÆFVLGENTI:  
INDOLIS QVOQVE ET IN-  
GENII FOELICITATE;  
FORMÆ PRÆSTANTIA,  
ET VENVSTATE,

ORIS. QVE DECORE  
ET GRATIA;  
MORVM SINGVLARI SVA-  
VITATE, ET ELEGANTIA;  
VNICE CONSPICVÆ:  
VXORI TOT NOMINIBVS  
SIBI CHARISSIMÆ.  
MOESTISSIMVS MARITVS  
ARNOLDVS BOOTIVS;  
IN IPSO IVVENTÆ FLORE,  
CVM TANTVM 25. ÆTATIS  
ANNVM AGERET, SIBI  
EREPTAM, 17. APRILIS 1651.  
INCONSOLABILI-  
TER LVGENS;  
POSVIT HOC MO-  
NVMENTVM  
AMORIS EXIMII, ET  
INDIVIDVI,  
ATQVE ADSVPREMAM DIEM  
EODEM TENORE DV-  
RATVRI.

Leetissimam Matronam, & sibi cha-  
rissimam, Margaritam Dunga-  
nam, D. Arnoldi Bootij, sibi etiam  
amicissimi, Coniugem, verè flens,  
desolebat sibi morte ademptam, effuso  
ex tempore carmine, Th. Sinserfius,  
Candidæ Casæ apud Scotos Episco-  
pus indignissimus:

**V**ERE, Debemus morti nos nostraque, Vases,  
Ignarus causa, dixerat ille nimis.  
Quod sæpe expertus, iam sentio, dum mihi charam  
Dunganam, ab nimium mors violenta rapit.  
Mors violenta rapit Dunganam in flore iuventæ,  
Præ cunctis alijs quæ mihi chara fuit.  
Sed mihi solamen, quod Vati non fuit illi, est  
Spes, quod per Christum vita redibit ei.  
Sic est, peccatum morti nos subicit omnes:  
Christus at ex ipsa morte redemptor erit.  
Sic tibi, sic certò fiet, Dunganæ, beata  
In Christa moriens, dum tibi vera fides.  
Vera & viva fides; quæ vitæ expressa per omne,  
Morte etiam in media te comitata fuit.  
Hanc quoque tu in mentè revoca, charissime Booti,  
Quæ fuit erepta in conjugè viva fides:  
Erepta quæ tanta premit, ne te opprimat orbem  
Mæstia. In viva coniuge, viva fides  
Vitæ animæ in cælo post mortem præstat: eandem  
Corporea parti reddet & illa sua.



